




WEEK 4 Day 2

Writing Explanation
Deconstruction: Explanation Purpose

Content Objective	I can identify the main purpose of a text. (R.9.1.b)
Language Objective	I can use details from a text to support my response. (SL.1.1.c)
Vocabulary	<p>genre: a type of writing</p> <p>explanation: a genre of writing whose purpose is to explain a phenomenon in sequence</p> <p>purpose: the reason for doing or creating something</p> <p>explain: to describe in detail</p> <p>phenomenon: an observable thing that happens</p> <p>sequence: in a particular order</p>
Materials and Preparation	<p>To become familiar with the genre and how it is taught, read Writing: Introduction to Explanation (in the Unit 4 Introduction documents).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>From Sheep to Sweater</i>, Robin Nelson ● Why We Write chart, from Unit 1, Week 1, Day 1 ● Why We Write: <i>From Sheep to Sweater</i> card ● Explanation anchor chart images: mentor texts, cut apart ● chart paper <p>Prepare the following Explanation anchor chart. Glue the mentor text images to the chart.</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Explanation</p> <p>Purpose: to explain a phenomenon in sequence</p> <p>Examples:</p> 
<p>Opening 1 minute</p>	<p><i>Today we'll begin looking at a new genre of writing called explanation.</i></p>
<p>Deconstruction 28 minutes</p> <p><i>From Sheep to Sweater</i></p>	<p><i>We read this book, From Sheep to Sweater, when we learned about resources in our communities. Today we will read it to learn about explanation. As we reread the book, think about why Robin Nelson wrote it.</i></p> <p>Read the book. After reading, facilitate discussion. <i>Take a moment to think, and then talk to a partner: Why did Robin Nelson write this book? What is the purpose? Use evidence from the text to support your response.</i></p> <p>Allow the children several minutes to think and share with a partner. Then harvest and discuss their ideas. Highlight responses that surface explaining a phenomenon, with steps in order.</p>
	<p>Show the Explanation anchor chart. <i>The purpose of explanation is to explain a phenomenon in sequence. Explain means to describe in detail, and phenomenon is a scientific word that means something that happens that can be observed.</i></p>

	<p>Sequence is a word that you might remember; it means “in order.” We have used this word when writing other genres. Sequence is important in personal recounts and procedures. But these genres are written for different purposes. Personal recounts document a sequence of events. Procedures give directions in sequence to accomplish a goal. Explanations explain a phenomenon in sequence.</p> <p>From Sheep to Sweater is one example of an explanation we will explore in this unit. We will also reread another book from Unit 3: From Cocoa Bean to Chocolate.</p>
	<p>Display the Why We Write chart.</p> <p><i>During the year we have been recording our ideas about why the authors may have written different books. Now we have learned about a new purpose for writing: to explain a phenomenon in sequence. Let’s add this to our chart.</i></p> <p>Write the purpose for explanation on the card and add it to the chart.</p>
<p>Closing 1 minute</p>	<p><i>Today we began learning about a new genre called explanation, which is written to explain a phenomenon in sequence. Tomorrow we will learn about the stages of explanation.</i></p>
<p>Standards</p>	<p>R.9.1.b Distinguish between information provided by pictures or other illustrations and information provided by the words in a text.</p> <p>SL.1.1.c Ask questions to clear up any confusion about the topics and texts under discussion.</p>
<p>Ongoing assessment</p>	<p>Reflect on the whole group discussions.</p> <p>What do the children already know about the purpose of explanation?</p> <p>What are their confusions?</p>

Notes

